(1988) *The MacDonald Encyclopedia of butterflies and moths*. Macdonald & Co. (Publishers) Ltd.

Porter, Keith (1986) *Discovering butterflies & moths* is the same as Smith, Anne (1990) *Butterflies & moths*, Wayland (Publishers) Ltd.

Kelman, Janet Harvey described by Wood, Rev Theodore (nd [1926]) T. C. & E. C. Jack Ltd. *Butterflies and moths shown to the children*. (nd [1939]) Thomas Nelson and Sons Ltd. *Butterflies and moths*. Anon (=Janet Harvey described by Wood, Rev Theodore) (nd) T. C. & E. C. Jack Ltd. *The child and the butterflies*. (nd) T. C. & E. Jack. Same text and colour illustrations but has added monochrome figures in the text and a series of questions and exercises.

– BRIAN O. C. GARDINER, 2 Highfield Avenue, Cambridge CB4 2AL.

Is the Orange Ladybird *Halyzia sedecimguttata* (L.) (Col.: Coccinellidae) a migrant?

A. A. Allen published a note on the occurrence of *Halyzia 16-guttata* at light in a London suburb and made some general comments on the species in 1996 (*Ent. Rec.* **108**: 298). This note was followed by a supplementary one in 1997 (*Ent. Rec.* **109**: 125), in which he suggested that the specimen previously recorded could have come an indefinite distance. He then suggested the possibility of the species being a migrant.

My own observations on this species during 2000 suggest either migration or, at least, some form of mass movement in this country. On the night of 16-17 June 2000, fifteen specimens were caught in my light trap here at Grange-over-Sands, in Cumbria (grid reference SD 4071). These were all in a cluster on one side of the trap. There were also one or two examples of the beetle in the egg trays, but these were not counted. Trapping on the previous few nights had not produced any Coccinellidae, nor did the following nights, in spite of good weather conditions. On the night of 21-22 July, eleven more examples were present, again in a cluster on the inside of the trap. Trapping was continued nightly, and the next observations were 25-26 July and 30-31 July, when one specimen was caught on each night. Since that last date, no further sightings have been recorded here.

These data suggest that, perhaps, some form of mass movement of the species occurred in June and July and it would be of considerable interest to learn if any similar observations were made elsewhere on or about the same dates.

Recent notes in this journal are of interest, and perhaps relevance, to my observations. Aggregations of *H. 16-guttata* are reported from southern England in Epping Forest (Mabbot. *Ent. Rec.* **112**: 100-101), Cambridgeshire (Everett, *Ent. Rec.* **112**: 101-102), south London (Jones, *Ent. Rec.* **112**: 102) and Buckingham Palace Garden (Plant & Lane, *Ent. Rec.* **112**: 103-104). Perhaps the specimens in my trap had spent the previous winter as guests of Her Majesty The Queen? How honoured I should feel if this could be proved – more so than had they been associated with a stone angel in a cemetery.

Halyzia 16-guttata can not be considered a common insect in northern England, as is indeed indicated by the distribution map given by Majerus & Williams (1989. *Ent. Gaz.* **40**: 71-78).– NEVILLE L. BIRKETT, Beardwood, Carter Road, Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria LA11 7AG.

On the binding of journals and their supplements

Back around 1840 some Victorian clever-dick found a cheaper and convenient way of binding books instead of sewing them. It was know as gutta-percha, a rubber-like substance, which held single sheets glued together. Unfortunately it proved to have a limited lifespan of not more than 40 years. An excellent example of this is to be seen in most of the magnificent books by H. Noel Humphreys such as his *Genera of British Butterflies.*

This mishap was followed by metal stapling, the book signatures being stapled onto a strong canvas backing and the book then bound in the normal way. Unfortunately, under the conditions most such books have been kept over the years the staples have rusted away, leaving a brown stain on the pages with the paper rotted around them and the book therefore difficult and expensive to repair. An example is the *Fenland Past and Present* by Miller & Skertchley. It is fortunate indeed that tradition prevailed and the majority of books continued to be sewn together with linen thread.

Another disaster is now in the offing, however, since over recent years the gutta-percha method, using plastic glue this time, has been revived and is known as "perfect binding". While it would appear (time may yet tell) that plastic glues are longer-lasting than gutta-percha, it is extraordinary just how many such books start to lose pages and break apart when they are subjected to more than occasional use.

A good century ago journals, part-works and thin ephemeral items, started to use staples instead of each part being sewn. This is fine when they are regularly bound up year upon year, but those kept in their separate parts gradually suffer from rusting with passage of time, unless as sometimes occurs in recent times, they are of stainless steel. Sometimes they are side stapled and this is an abomination which makes the journal difficult to read as the opened pages refuse to lie flat making reading difficult without using both hands to hold the pages down.

In the early days of many journals they were issued in thin sections of four, eight or sixteen pages and with the edges untrimmed and with wide margins and tended to be sewn with a single cotton thread, the plates tipped in or sometimes loose. Easy to take apart, bind and trim. Stapling gradually became the norm. Fine while the sections were still fairly thin, but we now have anything up to 96 page sections and these are far more difficult to bind up and make a decent book out of. Paper too has changed and is now more dead white in colour rather than the "off-white" of the past and is often glossier and heavier, again making binding more difficult.